

REMARKS

The above amendments to the above-captioned application along with the following remarks are being submitted. This is supplemental to the response filed on May 11, 2007, in response to the Office Action dated February 20, 2007, the Advisory Action mailed on June 27, 2007, and the telephone interview conducted with the Examiner on July 12, 2007. Applicants thank the Examiner for taking the time to conduct the telephone interview.

In view of the following remarks, the Examiner is respectfully requested to give due consideration to this application, to indicate the allowability of the claims, and to pass this case to issue.

Status of the Claims

Claims 1-15 are under consideration in this application. Applicants hereby submit that no new matter is being introduced into the application through the submission of this response.

Formality Rejection

Claims 1-15 were previously rejected in the final Office Action under 35 U.S.C. § 101 because these claims are directed to non-statutory subject matter. In the Advisory Action, the Examiner indicated that the amendments "...confirming by a user..." to the claims were not entered since they raised new matters. If they were entered, they would overcome the 101 rejection.

Interview Summary

Applicants respectfully contended that the recitation of "displaying said function group of biopolymers in the separate display window thereby confirming by the user that said function group in the selected subtree shares said one of functional characteristics consisting of enzymatic, metabolic, transporting, and cell cycle functions" are fully supported by the descriptions of "*keywords contained in the subtrees can be displayed in order to confirm success of clustering as well as to aid focusing of the grouping and to aid selection of the a clustering method (p. 5, lines 20-23)*," each of Steps 1706, 1709, 1714 in Fig. 8 with a precedent displaying step than inviting the user to click with a mouse, "*this displaying method allows a supposition that genes belonging to the same cluster may possibly share common functional characteristics (p. 3, lines 6-8)*", "*whether the grouping was successful or not is confirmed by focusing on the functions of genes or keywords derived from gene names*

to see whether relative genes are assembled in a subtree (p. 4, last paragraph)” in the specification. One skilled in the art would infer from the above-referenced descriptions the recitation of “...confirming by a user...”

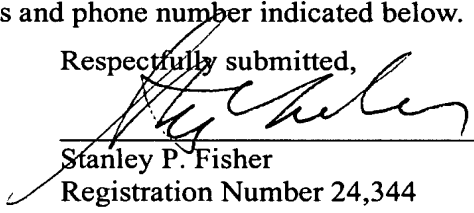
The Examiner indicated that the above-referenced descriptions in the specification appeared to support the recitation of “...confirming by a user...”, and suggested filing a supplemental response to submit the supports so as to set the case in condition for allowance.

Conclusion

In view of all the above, clear and distinct differences as discussed exist between the present invention as now claimed and the prior art reference upon which the rejections in the Office Action rely.

Favorable reconsideration of this application is respectfully solicited. Should there be any outstanding issues requiring discussion that would further the prosecution and allowance of the above-captioned application, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicant's undersigned representative at the address and phone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,


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